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URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY
(STAFFORDSHIRE)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1965



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URBAN DISTRICT OF SEDGLEY

(Staffordshire)

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

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SEDGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor F.S. Dews.

Members:

Councillor C.A. Turner, J.P.,
(Chairman of Council)

Councillor	A.P. Beste
"	G.W. Beswick
"	T.P. Hanley
"	T. Parkin
"	E.H. Phipps
"	J.R. Pugh
"	H.O. Smith
"	Mrs. E.E. Williams.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

F.B. Mackenzie, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Acting)

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:
David J.W. Robertson, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C.,
Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R.B.M. Anderson, A.R.S.H., A.I.P.H.E., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.
(Retired May 13th 1965)

J. Millward, Cert. P.H.I.J.B., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H.,
Diploma for Smoke Inspectors, Cert. Meat
and Food Inspector.

G.K. Hope, Cert. P.H.I.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.
(Appointed 25th January, 1965)

M.A. Johnson, Pupil Public Health Inspector.

Clerical Staff:

Mrs. J. Rushton

Miss C.M. Edwards.

Official Address and Telephone Number of Medical Officer
of Health:-

Clifton Villa,
High Holborn,
SEDGLEY.

Tel: SEDGLEY 4422

Private Telephone Number:

WOLVERHAMPTON 37320

STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1965

Area: 3,823 acres

Population: 32,510 (Estimated)

Number of Inhabited Houses: 10,265

Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £4045

Rateable Value: £1,004,066

General Rate: 10/5d.

Birth Rate: 21. 3 (crude)
18. 1 (standardised)
18. 1 (England and Wales)

Death Rate: 13. 5 (crude)
11. 8 (standardised)
11. 5 (England and Wales)

Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births:

England and Wales:

Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis: 1

Deaths from other Tuberculosis Diseases: NIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1965

SEDGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I submit my Annual Report for 1965 in accordance with the requirements of Ministry of Health Circular 1/66.

In previous reports I have made a practice of communicating to you, in this opening letter, some observations on the vital statistics of your urban district but unfortunately such relevant information from the Registrar-General has not yet been received at this date of reporting. So perforce, in the absence of such I can only make alluding observations. My opening letter this year is more or less of a reviewing or valedictory nature in view of the impending demise of your urban district on 1st April, 1966 as a Local Authority.

The health of the inhabitants of your district would appear to have been satisfactory throughout the year. There has been no invalidity attributable to causes or factors related to conditions which could be considered as coming within the province of public health preventive measures, nor has there been any heavy incidence of infectious disease apart from measles which has conformed to its usual biennial rise in notifications. Diphtheria is now a clinical rarity as a result of immunisation and the same might be forecast for poliomyelitis in the foreseeable future.

Scarlet fever has declined much in incidence and virulence, so much so, as to advocating its withdrawal from notification.

Enteric fever or typhoid has now been phenomenally reduced as a result of higher standards of sanitation and hygiene and the strengthening of measures for the protection of food, milk and water supplies.

Isolated cases of dysentery however, still keep cropping up.

There have been no cases of smallpox in your urban district during the time of my tenure of office but surveillance of contacts has been necessary from time to time. Smallpox when it does occur is generally due to importation as a result of facilities for travel by air to and from countries abroad where such diseases may be prevalent.

Pulmonary tuberculosis is certainly showing a reduction in mortality but still calls for intensive preventive measures to reduce the incidence of this disease.

Heart disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system, cancer and respiratory disease continue to be the predominating causes of adult death.

As to deaths from cancer all forms, 38% were due to cancer of the lung.

The sanitary conditions of the district are good and call for no adverse comment due to the activities of your inspectors throughout the year.

Every effort is being made to bring sewerage and sewage disposal up to a satisfactory and reasonable standard.

Demolition orders and Clearance Areas have been steadily proceeded with and the opening up of new housing estates and the number of houses erected thereon have placed you high on the list as a progressive housing authority.

Your Council has still many projected developments to promote the attractiveness of the district, such as the sweeping away of much old residential property and the clearance of congested areas, both of which are the sine qua non requirements of a healthy environment.

The Public Health Service is essentially a preventive one and communities owe much to it in the way of prevention and control over infectious disease; but at the moment the emphasis is on personal service, home helps, care of the aged, social, environmental, occupational conditions and housing.

Nevertheless, in spite of this trend towards personal and social service the old health problems of protecting water and milk supplies, safeguarding food, ensuring efficient drainage and sewerage and combatting outbreaks of infectious diseases are still with us and must not be lost sight of or subordinated to the personal and social services.

I take this last opportunity of thanking the various Chairmen and Members of the Health and Housing Committees, at whose deliberations I have had the privilege of attending, for the help, co-operation and encouragement they have given me in my efforts to promote and maintain the health of your Urban District during my tenure of office.

To the Private Practitioners in the urban district I also tender my best thanks for their co-operation and unvarying courtesy and to the Chest Physicians and Directors of the Public Health Laboratory Service and the Mass Radiography Unit for their valuable reports. To the Nurses and Midwives I convey my appreciation of the efficient services they have rendered to your residents.

I also pay tribute to your Public Health Inspectors who have contributed so much to improving the hygienic conditions of your district and for their activities in ridding your district of much old and insanitary property.

It would be remiss and ungrateful if I did not take this last opportunity of thanking your Clerk, Engineer and Surveyor, Treasurer and colleagues in charge of other of your Council Departments for their advice and help when I have had occasion to consult them. It has been a pleasure to serve with them.

I also thank the clerical staff for their help and ungrudging willingness to be of service to me at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F.B MACKENZIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

March 1966.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS							<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate							340	352	692
Illegitimate							332	345	677
							8	7	15
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (crude)								21	30
Standardised Birth Rate								18	10
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births								2	16
Still-births								18	
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still- Births								25	35
Total Live and Still-births								710	
Infant Deaths								6	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births								8	7
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate births.. .. .								8	9
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births								NIL	
Neo-natal (first four weeks) Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births								7	4
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1,000 live births								5	8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 live and still-births								31	
Maternal Deaths (Including abortion) ..								NIL	
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births.. .. .								NIL	
							<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Deaths							198	241	439
Death Rate (crude)								13	50
Standardised Death Rate								11	80
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)								80	
Deaths from Measles (all ages).. .. .								—	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ..								—	
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..								—	

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1965

								<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
2	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
4	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
8	Measles..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2
11	Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	-
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	11
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	5
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	24
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1
16	Diabetes..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	47
18	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	52	38
19	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	9
20	Other heart diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	42
21	Other circulatory diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	16
22	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
23	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	13
24	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	8
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	11
33	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1
34	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6
35	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
								<u>198</u>	<u>241</u>

BIRTH RATES

YEAR	SEDGLEY			England and Wales Birth Rate
	Number of Births	BIRTH RATE		
		Crude	Standardised	
1956	345	14.29	13.58	15.7
1957	385	15.62	15.15	16.1
1958	352	13.89	13.47	16.4
1959	394	15.00	13.95	16.5
1960	474	17.28	16.07	17.1
1961	538	18.97	17.45	17.4
1962	583	19.47	17.91	18.0
1963	581	18.74	15.74	18.2
1964	642	20.31	17.26	18.4
1965	692	21.30	18.10	18.1

DEATH RATES

YEAR	SEDGLEY			England and Wales Birth Rate
	Number of Deaths	DEATH RATE		
		Crude	Standardised	
1956	642	26.60	10.90	11.7
1957	592	14.01	11.28	11.5
1958	458	18.08	10.48	11.7
1959	370	14.0	10.71	11.6
1960	392	14.29	11.00	11.5
1961	395	13.93	11.42	12.0
1962	398	13.29	12.62	11.9
1963	401	12.93	10.86	12.2
1964	380	12.03	12.15	11.3
1965	439	13.50	11.80	11.5

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

GENERAL HOSPITALS

All such are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board and are situate outside the Urban District. They are the hospitals of Wolverhampton, Dudley and Birmingham and are easily accessible.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Provision for admission and treatment of such cases is made by the Regional Hospital Board.

TUBERCULOSIS

Institutions are maintained by the Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis. The visiting of Tuberculosis patients in relation to their care and after-care is under the administration of the County Council. Chest Clinics are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton and several sanatoria are available.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Facilities for treatment are available at the special departments of the Hospitals serving the district.

MATERNITY

The Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home which forms part of Burton Road Hospital, and Wordsley Hospital, are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board. They provide accommodation for cases referred or booked from the Ante-Natal Clinics or by General Practitioners. Cases wishing to remain at home are delivered by the County Midwives who if so required can call for the obstetric assistance of a General Practitioner.

MIDWIVES AND ANTE-NATAL CLINICS are provided and administered by the County Council.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This service is operated by the County Council, the Area Health Committee receiving in part delegated functions regarding the day to day running. The Area is served by two Ambulance Stations.

- (a) Wordsley Ambulance Station, Stream Road, Wordsley.
Telephone Number - Kingswinford 3306.
- (b) Tettenhall Ambulance Station, The Green, Tettenhall.
Telephone Number - Wolverhampton 51530.

Both stations provide a 24 hour service.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

In accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act, the following services are provided by the Local Health Authority, namely the County Council.

Care of Mothers and Young Children.
Health Visiting.
Home Nursing.
Vaccination and Immunisation.
Prevention of Illness, care and after-care.
Domestic Help.
Mental Health Services.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Stafford.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

REMOVAL OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION.

These Acts deal with the care of aged and infirm persons incapable of looking after themselves, and give powers to remove to a suitable hostel or institution if considered necessary.

It was not found necessary during the year to remove any person under Section 47 of the Act.

The situation those Acts are designed to deal with provokes thought as to the future, socially as well as economically, in so far as the recent advances in modern and antibiotic therapy and in preventive public health legislation and measures are prolonging and saving lives at the extremes of age, resulting in a national economic problem in respect of an increasing proportion of old people.

The Domestic Help service operated by the Area Health Committee does its best to meet the demands made for such services.

Recruitment of suitable women to maintain an effective strength would appear to be the difficulty.

No. of cases receiving help during the year:-

Domestic Help	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Neighbourly Help	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

No. of Helps employed at end of year:-

Domestic Help	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Neighbourly Help	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

The availability of medical equipment and comforts to invalids through the Social Welfare Committee and the Women's Voluntary Service is also a valuable asset.

The setting up and operation of a "Meals-on-Wheels" service is being given consideration.

NURSES

The District Nurses continue to give their indispensable services in alleviating sickness and making illness more tolerable. Appreciation is extended to them.

Old Peoples Clubs which have been set up in the district also contribute to the welfare and happiness of the old people.

The Area Welfare Officer, Mr. R.C. Cox, continues to give valuable support in securing institutional accommodation for those aged and infirm people who are incapable of looking after themselves.

CHIROPODY

Great advantage is being taken of this service.

The number on the Register and receiving treatment at the moment of reporting is as follows:-

Sedgley Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	141
Lower Gornal Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	122
					Total	<u>263</u>

Those figures include Domiciliary cases.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The Medical Inspection of School Children is provided by the County Council who have also established Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat, Dental and Orthopaedic Clinics. The various age groups are examined periodically and from the School Inspections referred to those Clinics or to the General Practitioner if considered advisable.

In cases of Infectious Disease, and if deemed necessary, special steps are taken in conjunction with the School Authority to exclude scholars who have been in contact with such disease.

Protective measures and isolation are under the direction of the Health Department.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The total number of notified cases of infectious disease was 324 as against 17 last year, exclusive of Tuberculosis.

Whooping Cough:	1 case as against 6 last year.
Measles:	315 cases as against 11 last year.
Scarlet Fever:	7 cases.
Dysentery:	1 case.

CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL 14

Moxley Hospital

Gastro-Enteritis	5
Respiratory Infection..	2
Vaccination Eczema	2
Sonne Dysentery	1
Acute Bronchitis	1
Cerebral Thrombosis ..	1
Laryngitis	1
Encephalitis	1

SWABS AND SPECIMENS Submitted to Public Health Laboratory.

Sputa Swabs	..	..	..	25
Faecal specimens	..	..	..	35
Steak and Kidney Pie	..			1
Stream Water	..	..	..	1

The majority of sputa swabs were submitted by the Tuberculosis Officer. As regards the number of faecal specimens many were repeat and follow-up specimens in respect of individuals under treatment or observation by private practitioners.

Infectious Diseases

The incidence of infectious diseases in the district has been low with the exception of measles which has conformed to its usual biennial heavier incidence.

GENERAL MEASURES

Notification of Infectious Disease are received by the Health Department and carefully studied for any features necessitating prompt action.

When desirable the schools are disinfected and terminal disinfection of premises and articles in affected households which have been exposed to infection carried out in all cases.

DISINFECTION OF CONTAMINATED CLOTHING AND BEDDING

An arrangement exists with the Public Health Department, Dudley, for the disinfection of contaminated clothing and bedding if the need should arise.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The County Council does not provide for a Vaccination Centre in Sedgley, but arrangements can be made with the Medical Practitioners by those who wish themselves or their children vaccinated against Smallpox. Provision of such a centre is now under consideration. Vaccination, however, is now being offered at Infant Welfare Clinics.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis is undertaken in the Child Welfare and School Clinics, while special Immunisation Sessions in Schools provide for an increase or maintenance of immunity in the child population. The administration and keeping of records of vaccination and immunisation are in the hands of the Area Health Office at Brierley Hill.

Private Medical Practitioners are also prepared to immunise on request.

The following information in respect of vaccination and immunisation has been supplied by the Brierley Hill Area Health Office.

Smallpox

Primary vaccination

Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	11
1 year	..	..	..	..	189
2 - 4 years	..	..	..	..	135
5 - 15 years	..	..	..	..	9
				Total	<u>344</u>

Revaccination against Smallpox

2 - 4 years	..	..	..	..	1
5 - 15 years	..	..	..	..	149
				Total	<u>150</u>

Diphtheria

Total number of children who have received primary immunisation during 1965	377
Number who have had a re-inforcing injection during 1965	<u>325</u>
Total	<u><u>702</u></u>

Whooping Cough

Number of children immunised during
the year ended 31st December 1965

Primary	359
Re-inforcing	<u>173</u>
Total	<u><u>532</u></u>

Tetanus Inoculation

Primary	383
Re-inforcing	<u>316</u>
Total	<u><u>699</u></u>

Poliomyelitis

Primary	767
Re-inforcing	<u>3614</u>
Total	<u><u>4381</u></u>

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of new cases notified during the year was six pulmonary against four pulmonary in the year 1964. There were no new non-pulmonary cases notified.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pul.		Non-Pul		Pul.		Non-Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 to 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 9 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 to 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 19 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 to 24 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 34 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 to 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 to 54 years	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

YEARLY FIGURES FOR THE LAST DECADE

YEAR	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
1956	17	-	5	-
1957	9	1	2	1
1958	10	-	3	-
1959	17	-	1	-
1960	10	-	3	-
1961	11	1	3	-
1962	7	1	3	-
1963	5	-	1	2
1964	4	-	2	-
1965	6	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

Number on register 31st December, 1964	171
New cases	6
Inward transfers	2
	<u>8</u>
	179
Less cases removed from register	<u>13</u>
Number on register 31st December, 1965	<u><u>166</u></u>

ANALYSIS OF REGISTER

TOTAL CASES	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
166	103	56	159	4	3	7

The prevention of the spread of this disease particularly when an active case is found in a household or in a school, is of the highest importance and here X-Ray examination and tuberculin-testing of contacts play their part and where indicated, B.C.C. vaccination offered,

The proximity of the Radiography Unit at New Cross Hospital may be taken advantage of by individuals when they think such a visit is advisable and the Referral Centre at the same location is available to local practitioners for diagnostic and progress information in respect of their patients.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Your Engineer and Surveyor has supplied me with the following report.

(a) Sewerage

"It was not possible, unfortunately, to complete the design for the relief foul sewer in Straits Road and replacement cast iron syphon, during the year, and this scheme has been passed on to Dudley Corporation with a request that early attention is given to it.

The designs for the two relief outfall sewers to the Gospel End Disposal Works, from Greenleighs through Sedgley Hall farmlands, and along Gospel End Road respectively, were completed and details submitted to the Minister for approval and loan sanction.

The three relief sewers referred to above will after 1st April, 1966 become the responsibility of the new Upper Stour Valley Main Drainage Authority.

The scheme for piping in Cinder Road brookcourse has been with the Minister for a considerable time awaiting approval and loan consent.

One serious trouble with this brook, that of the occasional overflow of sewage from Cinder Road foul sewer, has been overcome. The overflow pipe, which has discharged to the brook, since the main sewerage was constructed some 40 years ago, and which has operated quite frequently of recent years due to the increased flow in the foul sewer, has been disconnected from the brook and connected, by the courtesy of the Dudley Corporation, to their recently laid outfall sewer conveying sewage from Russells Hall to the Lower Gornal Works.

Generally, existing sewers have performed reasonably well during the year without undue maintenance costs.

Continual subsidence of the road surface of Greenway, over the line of the foul sewer, which is over 30 feet deep, leads to the suspicion that all may not be well with the sewer. It is proposed to have the pipe examined by television camera, so that if any fault exists it can be pinpointed and measures taken to deal with it.

(b) Sewage Disposal

On 1st April, 1966 the two Disposal Works on the West side of the District will be taken over by the Upper Stour Main Drainage Authority, and the two on the East Side, by the Upper Tame Main Drainage Authority.

The recently constructed Lower Gornal Works continues to produce an effluent of very good quality. It has again not been possible to maintain sludge digestion at these Works, and the Council have instructed their Consulting Chemists, Messrs. Bostock Hill & Rigby to carry out a thorough investigation into the cause of the trouble and to make recommendations for effecting a permanent cure.

It is likely that heating plant will be necessary to maintain at all times a satisfactory temperature in the Digestion Tanks for digestion to continue.

In the meantime all possible temporary measures will be operated, so as to obviate as far as possible the offensive odours, experienced during the past Summer.

During the year, the contract was commenced at the Gospel End Sewage Works, for the construction of new Disposal Works to replace the existing. By the end of 1966 a substantial part of the Works should be completed, resulting it is expected in an improvement in the quality of the effluent. The whole of the contract works should be completed towards the end of 1967.

The works will then be capable of dealing with $\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons, and sufficient land has been acquired to allow for further expansion for the future, if ever required.

At the request of the Severn River Authority, the Council set up pumping and spraying equipment, so that a substantial part of the effluent could be sprayed on land near the Works and so receive additional treatment by irrigation, before finally reaching the brook.

This should result in a much improved effluent pending the coming into operation of the new Disposal Works, and enable some residential development to proceed in the catchment area of the Works.

Public Conveniences

Efforts have been made throughout the year to keep all public conveniences in good repair and in clean condition, but these tasks have been made most difficult by the constant depredations of persons, who appear to regard public conveniences and other public services fair game for destruction and abuse."

Mortuary

The number admitted to the mortuary during the year was 33, distributed as follows:-

Sedgley	..	..	..	..	10
Upper Gornal	..	..	..	..	4
Lower Gornal	..	..	..	..	16
Coseley	..	..	..	..	1
Dudley	..	..	..	..	2
					<hr/>
				Total	33
					<hr/>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Sanitary Inspection

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Robertson, indicates the comprehensive nature of the duties and activities carried out by Public Health Inspectors; and these duties are increasing in number and character as a result of ever increasing legislation to ensure a satisfactory standard in Food Hygiene and Housing conditions.

The shortage of staff has reacted on the work carried out in the course of the year. Nevertheless your Inspectors have continued to give intensive attention to Food Hygiene and to Meat Inspection, two duties which must not be neglected however great the demands on their time may be.

Food Hygiene

Particular attention has been paid to food hygiene, your Inspectors giving much of their time to this important aspect of public health.

A high standard of meat inspection has been maintained during the year.

No notifications of suspected food poisoning were confirmed.

The attention of food handlers, to the regulations in respect of food hygiene, is constantly drawn to avoid the possibility of undetected cases which constitute the danger of unsuspected cases of food poisoning occurring.

Water Supply

The Sedgley Urban District, with the exception of the Goldthorn Park area, is supplied by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company. The Goldthorn Park area receives supply from the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking.

I am indebted to Mr. R.H. Taylor, Engineer-in-Chief, for the following information.

(a) South Staffordshire Waterworks Company

- "1. The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
2. The supply to the Sedgley district is obtained mainly from three pumping stations situated outside the boundaries of the Authority. Chlorination is practised at all three stations as a precautionary measure but, owing to the method of chlorination, samples of the raw water are not obtainable at two of them.

During 1965, 150 out of 151 samples of chlorinated water were free from coliform bacteria. 111 samples of raw water were also examined, of which 110 were free from coliform bacteria.

Samples of the supply within the boundaries of the Authority were obtained from:-

Sedgley Tanks
Sedgley Reservoir
Waterman's house, Sedgley.

28 Samples from the tanks and 14 from the Waterman's house were all satisfactory, as were 12 out of 15 samples from the reservoir.

- .3. The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvency, the 14 samples from the Waterman's house being free from any detectable quantities of lead.
4. Chlorination is practised at most of the pumping stations as a precautionary measure. In cases of possible contamination in the event of burst or damaged mains, emptying reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination is performed. Special staff and apparatus are available for this work. New mains, etc., are not brought into use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory.
5. The number of dwelling houses supplied from the public water mains in 1965 was:-

- (a) 9,345 direct to houses,
- (b) 240 by means of standpipes.

The population supplied is estimated by the Company at 3.24 persons per house."

Fluoride Content

Following tests carried out in the area, the water was found to have a content of naturally occurring fluoride of 0.06 parts per million.

(b) Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking

I am indebted to Mr. W.C. Johnson, M.I.C.E., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.W.E. Water Engineer and Manager, for the following information:-

1. The Water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.
2. The water supplied is not plumbo-solvent.
3. There has been no known contamination of the water supply subsequent to leaving the works.

The water going into supply is derived from a number of sources and contains roughly equal amount of treated river water and well water.

Fluoride values fall within the range of 0.01 - 0.11 parts per million (as F.).

Sampling conforms to the standards set by the World Health Organisation. The reservoirs, tanks, re-pumping stations, mains and distributing systems are examined and sampled on a usual 3-weekly rota.

As regards chemical examinations, since the waters supplied within the Undertaking's area vary in chemical nature, one from another, and in many cases are mixed in varying proportions, attention has been focussed almost entirely on the water as supplied to the consumer.

I am satisfied that the water supplied to the urban district is of the very high standard in respect of purity and the steps and precautions taken to ensure same all embracing.

HOUSING

Steady progress continues in the demolition of unfit individual houses and the erection of Municipal Houses.

Further details as to Demolition Orders and Clearance Areas are given in the Public Health Inspector's report.

Apart from the obligation to rehouse tenants from confirmed clearance areas, further problems arise with the rehousing on medical grounds of families who live in a future clearance area. A certain flexibility is necessary with disease as in urgent cases applicants cannot wait for a number of years without experiencing a severe deterioration in their health. Accommodation on medical grounds should therefore be given the fullest consideration.

Sub-standard accommodation, as has frequently been demonstrated, bears a marked statistical co-relationship with sub-standard health. Recurrent respiratory infections, tuberculosis and many of the acute infectious diseases are only some of the conditions found more commonly among the overcrowded and inadequately housed. As well as the adverse physical effect, sub-standard housing and overcrowding, are very prone to lead to the development of family disharmony upset, which is aggravated by having to share cooking, and personal and clothes washing facilities, particularly in the case of young married couples with children who are compelled to live - temporarily at any rate - with their parents. The majority of those who seek an interview with me to support their application for rehousing are generally living under such conditions.

I appreciate that the long waiting list and the shortage of available accommodation to meet the demand for rehousing are the frustrating factors your Tenancy Allocation Committee has to contend with when I submit from time to time cases for their special consideration. Nevertheless, it is good to record that the really deserving cases are rehoused.

With regard to problem families such families must be given a chance to improve themselves and should be housed in older property which nevertheless provides the facilities to live cleanly and hygienically; the object is to improve and not to penalise.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

In my last report I drew attention to the staff shortage in the department and the effect this was having on our work. Fortunately in the early weeks of 1965 another inspector was appointed which enabled us to clear off some of the arrears and endeavour to keep more up-to-date with the many duties falling on the department.

It is with sorrow that I have to report that Mr. Anderson, who had been with the department many years, had to retire on health grounds.

The year, generally, was a very busy one, but it was overshadowed by the knowledge that the district was doomed to early extinction under the West Midland re-organisation proposals. Future planning inevitably suffered. A number of schemes were shelved and eventually abandoned, doubtless to be revived or alternatives set in motion by the new Authority at some time in the future.

HOUSING

Repairs

Speaking generally, notices for repairs were only served when defects were discovered on receipt of complaints. With our many other commitments, it was quite impossible to undertake any general survey of the district or even occasional street by street inspections. Altogether, 30 houses were repaired after the service of notices during the year under review.

There are, of course, quite a number of other houses in a bad state of repair, but action under the Housing Act is anticipated in such cases in the near future, action which will solve the problems much more satisfactorily than by attempting repairs at completely worn out property.

All notices referred to above were served in the first place as informal notices, the intention being, if necessary, to enforce either under the Public Health Act or the Housing Act according to circumstances. In 4 cases statutory notices had to be served under the Public Health Act and in 2 cases under Section 9 of the Housing Act.

Improvement Grants.

The number of applications for Improvement Grants is still regrettably low. During the year five discretionary grants and three standard grants were approved, the total amount of the grants being respectively £1129. 4. 6d. and £550. 10. 0d.

There is no lack of willingness on the part of the Local Authority to approve grant applications, it is simply that the applications are not being received. The only applications ever refused are where the property obviously has not the required life, and a few cases where the owner of a modern house has an idea that the Council will pay for an extension to his already satisfactory house.

One application was received from a tenant under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1964, asking the Council to require the owner to improve the house to the full standard laid down in the Act.

Improvement Areas

During the year a report was prepared and submitted to the Health Committee suggesting the declaration of an Improvement Area containing 220 houses near the centre of the town. Although the idea was sympathetically received, the final decision of the Minister with regard to local government boundaries resulted in the idea being dropped.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

At the present time there are only three houses which can be described as in "multiple occupation". Two of these are large houses where the tenants each have a living room and a bedroom and share other facilities. Although the conditions are far from ideal, no really serious problem exists. The third case is not so good. Here we have an ordinary terraced house with three bedrooms and two living rooms occupied by three families.

Some of the houses previously reported as in multiple occupation have been improved to such an extent, generally by making each flat completely self-contained, that they can no longer be described as houses in this category.

Unfit Houses (Individual)

During the year Demolition Orders were made on thirty-six houses, and Closing Orders on two. An Undertaking to make fit was accepted in the case of another house. This brings the total of houses condemned individually since the end of the War to 445.

Clearance Areas

During the year a Clearance Area was declared in the High Street/Castle Street area, and a Compulsory Purchase Order was made. This Order is now at the Ministry awaiting confirmation. The area consists of forty-seven unfit houses together with ten others.

In addition, the Council decided to rehouse the occupants of seventeen temporary pre-fabricated bungalows which had out-lived their usefulness.

These two areas bring the total houses condemned in group action since the end of the War to 591. This figure, together with the 445 individual houses means that 1036 houses have been condemned in Sedgley between 1946 and the end of 1965.

Rehousing

The letting of all Council houses is entrusted to the Health Department. We are thus enabled to keep very closely in touch with all aspects of the housing situation in the district.

During the year a total of 209 families were rehoused. Of this total 108 families were from the general waiting list, 61 from condemned houses and 40 were moved at their own request from Council owned houses to more suitable accommodation.

At the end of the year the number of names on our Application List totalled 537. In addition, there were 47 families still living in condemned property, awaiting rehousing. The families in the unconfirmed High Street/Castle Street area are not included in this figure of 47.

FOOD INSPECTION AND HYGIENE

Slaughterhouses

During the year all animals killed in the three private slaughterhouses in the district were inspected in accordance with the Regulations.

I give below a table showing the number of animals inspected and the condemnations.

Tuberculosis

	<u>Number Inspected</u>	<u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	<u>Part condemned</u>	<u>Percentage affected</u>
Cattle	953	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pigs	2760	Nil	61	2.2
Sheep	7612	Nil	Nil	Nil

Cysticerci

	<u>Number Inspected</u>	<u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	<u>Part condemned</u>	<u>Percentage affected</u>
Cattle	953	Nil	2	0.2
Pigs	2760	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sheep	7612	Nil	Nil	Nil

Other Diseases

	<u>Number Inspected</u>	<u>Whole carcasses condemned</u>	<u>Part condemned</u>	<u>Percentage affected</u>
Cattle	953	Nil	138	14.5
Pigs	2760	Nil	195	7.0
Sheep	7612	2	676	8.9

The total weight of meat and edible offals condemned throughout the year at the slaughterhouses was 1 ton 15 cwts. 26 lbs.

Calves are practically never killed in any of our slaughterhouses, nor does any slaughtering of goats or horses take place in the district.

The meat killed is almost always of a high standard, most of the condemnations above-mentioned being due to liver parasites.

Meat inspection takes up a considerable portion of our time. Sometimes it almost appears as if the results obtained hardly warrant the lengthy time expended on this work. In other words is the system of inspection laid down in the Regulations too detailed? On the other hand one never knows when something serious might be brought to light. Perhaps we can look on our meat inspection service as an insurance policy, even if the premium is rather high.

Shops and Other Food Premises

There are few large shops or food premises in the district, but every endeavour is made to visit the food premises we have as often as possible.

No serious infringement of the Food Hygiene Regulations was found during the year, but a number of minor matters were brought to the attention of shop-keepers. It is our practice to do this verbally at the time, as it creates a much better atmosphere, with more willingness to comply, than would result from sending letters or notices. Written communications are sent, of course, if verbal warnings are ignored.

During the year the following foodstuffs were condemned in shops.

Meat	20 lbs.
Cooked meat and meat products	6 lbs.
Canned meats	65 lbs.
Fish	2 lbs.
Fruit and vegetables	36 lbs.
Other Foods	7 lbs.
	<hr/>
	136 lbs.
	<hr/>

Sampling and Analyses

During the year with the exception of one suspect meat pie, no sampling of foodstuffs, ice cream or lollies was carried out. The time which would have been taken in collecting the samples and transporting them to the laboratory at Stafford was felt to be unjustified in view of many more important jobs we had on hand.

I do not regret dispensing with the ice cream samples as I consider these a waste of time, but it has always been our intention to resume the bacteriological sampling of certain foods, together with the taking of hygiene swabs from utensils in food premises, as soon as possible.

Foreign bodies, etc., in food.

During the year we had few complaints from the public of unsatisfactory food having been sold to them. There was nothing which called for prosecution.

What some members of the public expect us to do about such matters is sometimes a little difficult to understand. They may be quite incensed at finding a foreign body in some purchase they have made, yet they are unwilling to appear in court as witnesses. It has happened that on occasion a complainant fails to appreciate that the length of time he has had the food and the circumstances in which it has been kept in his home are not conducive to a court being satisfied that the foreign body was in fact in the food when purchased.

While no one can ignore the presence of objectionable articles in food some objects are so obviously accidental and not objectionable in themselves that it is an embarrassment when one is expected to do something about it. When it is known that the food factory in question is a progressive and hygienic establishment, prosecutions in some cases serve no useful purpose. They, indeed, tend to give local government a bad name. While we are attempting to seek the co-operation of the food industry, we are at the same time antagonising them in some cases.

Milk

During the year 146 routine samples of milk were taken by the official sampler and submitted to a number of tests as follows:-

133 to the Methylene Blue Test, 14 samples failing.

32 to the Phosphatase Test, all passing.

13 to the Turbidity Test, all passing.

In addition, nine samples were taken for biological test for the presence of tubercle bacilli, all of these proving negative.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Household Storage Arrangements

During the year, the Health Committee, for the fourth time in my memory, approved the establishment of a municipal bin provision scheme for the district. This was confirmed by the Council, but at the meeting when the rate was being considered, pruning took place and the scheme was postponed for twelve months. As it proved, this postponement coincided with the taking over of the district by Dudley who have a bin provision scheme. It seems a pity, however, that we could not have adopted a scheme of our own bat. It was not for want of trying. The matter had been discussed on and off for about twenty years. The Health Committee was always in favour, but it foundered on the rocks of economy. When it comes to pruning estimates it is such an easy thing to knock out.

We, therefore, continued throughout the year with the old arrangement of serving notices for defective dustbins and advising that a replacement should be with a $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. B.S.S. bin.

Paper sacks are still issued at Holiday times to hold any excess refuse until the refuse collectors call.

The $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. moulded plastic bins which we have on trial are still proving very successful, but they have not been in use long enough to give any indication of their expected life.

A number of people in the district have bought coloured plastic bins which are far from satisfactory. The material is thin and brittle and we have had a number of complaints of damage by the refuse collectors. We have refused to accept responsibility as such bins are in my opinion quite unsuitable.

Refuse Collection

Throughout the year we continued to maintain a regular weekly collection of house refuse. The only exception to this was at holiday times when the refuse concerned was left until the following week and a paper sack issued.

The question of annual holidays for the workmen became an acute one during the year especially as a number of the men had extra days allowed for long service. The only solution was to close the department down for two complete weeks during the summer months - two separate weeks, of course, not taken together.

Another adjustment in the bonus scheme was made during the year, when the Council agreed that when one member of a team was absent and the remaining members completed the day's work, an extra payment be made to these men corresponding to a sharing of the absent man's wages.

All refuse is collected in Shelvoke & Drewry fore and aft tippers and although these vehicles are beginning to prove of rather small capacity, for the ever increasing bulk of the refuse, we experienced no actual difficulty in our work. No matter what the weather was like, all teams completed their scheduled work regularly.

Refuse Disposal

During the year tipping took place at our new refuse tip at The Alley, Lower Gornal. Although this is an extensive site, our first task was to fill some rather dangerous holes and this occupied us during the whole of the year.

Tipping is controlled by means of a Weatherill hydraulic shovel and one man. This machine is nearing the end of its useful life and will have to be replaced very soon.

Our main difficulty, on this tip is a lack of suitable covering material. The surrounding land is of rock, clay or shale, and ashes or suitable soil is at a premium.

One great advantage of the present tipping site is that it is not so easy for children or other trespassers to get on to. We have suffered far less damage here than on any of our previous tips.

The cost of refuse collection and disposal during the last financial year was £22,932, which works out roughly at 15/- per person per year, or £2 per house.

Salvage

We continued to salvage paper from shops during the year, but no attempt was made to extend this branch of our work. Any extension would have meant the purchasing of new premises, baling equipment and perhaps trailers. This was felt to be unjustified in view of our early absorption into the County Borough of Dudley.

The income from waste paper sales was £604, but the cost of collecting this was £1906. However, if we had not sold any paper, this material would still have had to be collected at the same cost. I feel that figures such as these can be manipulated any way one chooses until some standard method of costing is laid down.

Establishment

The establishment of the department is 25 men who are all needed to maintain our weekly service. When holidays and absences through sickness have to be taken into account, the work can only be carried out efficiently by having more men on the books than the official establishment and hoping that everyone does not turn up for work at the same time. Fortunately this never happens. In fact, throughout the year the absences were equivalent to three men below establishment for the entire year. This, of course, meant extra work for those men who were present.

The number of hours lost during the year was as follows:-

Total hours lost through sickness	6254
Total hours lost through holidays	<u>3405</u>
	9659
less hours worked over establishment	<u>3304</u>
	<u>6355</u>

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

During the year it was possible to complete initial inspections of all affected premises in the District and a considerable quantity of informal notices were served, mainly in respect of minor items.

Difficulty was experienced in persuading affected occupiers to register and, despite several visits to some premises, registration forms are still outstanding. The Council is however reluctant to proceed against defaulters and it is hoped that the aims of the Act will be achieved by continued persuasion.

With only one Inspector engaged part-time on this work, it was found difficult to fully implement the provisions of the Act and the large number of informal notices served has required a great amount of repetitive visiting.

As requested, a limited survey was carried out during the month of November to obtain information as to lighting standards. Though lighting in most cases appeared adequate, and no employee expressed dissatisfaction, the standards encountered were in almost every instance well below the levels recommended by the British Lighting Council. It would seem for practical purposes therefore that any legal standards issued could well be substantially lower than the Council recommendations.

For the several types of premises visited a variety of readings were taken on likely working surfaces and the light meter readings are averaged below:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Lowest Reading</u>	<u>Highest Reading</u>	<u>Average Reading</u>
Public Houses	1 L	5 L	2 L
Grocery Shops	2 L	14 L	7.5 L
Petrol Service Station	95 L	110 L	102.5 L
Stationer & Newsagents	6 L	11 L	8.5 L
Ladies Hairdressers	1 L	4 L	3 L
Butchers	7 L	12 L	9.5 L
Greengrocers	8 L	10 L	9 L
Off Licences	10 L	13 L	11 L
Hardware Shop	15 L	15 L	15 L
Bank Premises	10 L	12 L	11 L

The total number of premises concerned in the survey was 30.

The following tables give the information already supplied to the Minister of Labour at the end of the year.

Registrations and General Inspections

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>No. of premises registered during year.</u>	<u>No. of registered premises at end of year.</u>	<u>No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during year.</u>
Offices	4	22	7
Retail Shops	31	131	76
Wholesale shops, warehouses.	1	6	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	5	45	33
Fuel storage depots	2	3	2
Totals	43	207	120

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act - 120.

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	4	Cleanliness	19
"	5	Overcrowding	-
"	6	Temperature	18
"	7	Ventilation	-
"	8	Lighting	-
"	9	Sanitary conveniences	27
"	10	Washing facilities	23
"	11	Supply of drinking water	-
"	12	Clothing accommodation	1
"	13	Sitting facilities	-
"	14	Seats (sedentary workers)	-
"	15	Eating facilities	-
"	16	Floors, passages & stairs	12
"	17	Fencing machinery	-
"	18	Protective of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
"	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
"	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
"	24	First aid provisions	22
		Total	122

Analysis of persons employed
in registered premises

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	128
Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	..	383
Wholesale department, warehouses	..					67
Catering establishments open to the public	..	..	..	..	..	369
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fuel storage departments	..	..	..			6
						<hr/>
						954
						<hr/>

Total males ..367
Total females ..587

No applications have been received for exemptions under any of the provisions of the act, and no prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Three accidents were reported during the year. All were due to falls and none of them serious. All three were in catering establishments.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Industrial Premises

There is now practically no smoke nuisance of a continuing nature from any of the industrial premises in this district. The brickworks (scheduled premises under the control of the Alkali Inspectorate) are changing over rapidly to oil firing. All other industries have been dealt with in the past and are continuing to function satisfactorily.

It must be admitted, of course, that this is not an industrial area and the problem was not a very great one at the start.

Atmospheric Analysis.

We have three stations, situated one each in Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal, where daily readings are taken of smoke pollution and sulphur dioxide content of the atmosphere.

A measured quantity of air is passed through a filter by means of an electric motor, and the amount of soot collected thereon is carefully measured by means of a reflectometer. The same air also passes through a neutral solution of hydrogen peroxide which is then examined and the acid content measured by means of titration.

The results are tabulated and sent to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, which obtains other figures from all over the country. A nation-wide record is thus being kept of the state of the atmosphere.

Smoke Control Areas.

For a number of reasons little progress was made during the year with extending our smoke control areas. The position remains, therefore, largely as it was at the beginning of the year, but considerable building of new houses is taking place in areas already covered by Orders. The number of houses under control is therefore increasing steadily.

The present position is as follows:-

<u>No. 1 Area</u>	512 Houses in an area of 60 acres. In operation since 1960.
<u>No. 2 Area</u>	A rapidly expanding area of about 1400 houses at present in an area of 425 acres. In operation since 1961.

No. 3, 4, 5, & 6 Areas Four small areas of Council houses taken at the one time. There are 423 houses in a total area of 31 acres. In operation since 1963.

No. 7 Area Another rapidly expanding area with about 1100 houses at present in an area of 604 acres. In operation since 1963.

No. 8 Area Now about 350 houses in an area of 272 acres. In operation since 1964.

No. 9 Area An area containing about 800 houses at present in 509 acres. This area is still awaiting confirmation by the Ministry.

The total for these nine areas is about 4585 houses in 1900 acres. Thus we have covered practically half the area of the district and similarly nearly half the total number of houses.

All the areas are working satisfactorily, and we get no complaints now, except when someone complains about one of his neighbours emitting smoke from his chimney. We still get enquiries from residents as to when their part of the district will be covered by an Order. It may be, of course, that it is the grant for new fireplaces that is foremost in their minds.

It must be admitted, however, that the older and central areas of the district are still to be dealt with, but I can see no particular difficulty in this, apart from the time it will take and the labour to get the job done.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Inspections

During the year a total of 4072 inspections were carried out by the three inspectors to properties of various kinds, and 144 notices were served.

Many of the above inspections were made not for the purpose of finding fault but, to give advice and help in various ways. In the course of our routine visits many premises were found to be satisfactory and where small matters were discovered they were generally dealt with by having a word with the person responsible rather than by serving a notice.

Caravans

Rather strangely, we were not troubled too much with nomadic caravan dwellers during the year under review. Several sites had been made inaccessible by fencing or other means and this appears to have had the desired effect.

In accordance with a request made by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, a caravan survey was made on the 22nd March, 1965. In all, five caravans comprising four separate families of the type with which the survey was concerned, were within the district on that particular day.

We have one licensed caravan site, for two caravans only, and it was obvious that the position here was fast becoming most unsatisfactory. The caravans were deteriorating, the site conditions were poor, and both occupants and owner were showing less and less interest in the place. At the end of the year moves were being started to close the site.

Pest Control

Fewer than the usual number of complaints relating to insect or rodent pests were received during the year. This was particularly noticeable in relation to insect pests. Apart from a small number of complaints about ants, we had practically no bother with any other species of pest.

Rats and mice, however, still give cause for complaint wherever they are discovered or suspected. During the year the greater part of our sewers were treated by an outside firm of specialists. It had been found quite impracticable to do the job ourselves. Experience has shown that such sewer treatments reduce the number of complaints of surface infestations for a considerable time afterwards.

Factories

The factories in the district are visited as often as possible, which, it must be admitted is by no means regularly. It is our endeavour to visit all such premises at least once per year. Some have more frequent visits where circumstances warrant it. On these visits the sanitary accommodation is inspected as well as the canteen facilities, the boiler plant, and the refuse storage arrangements.

I submit at the end of this report a table showing the details of these inspections.

Riding Establishments

There is quite a large riding establishment in this district and under the Riding Establishments Act 1964 this called for licensing. In my opinion, however, the premises were far from satisfactory and a veterinary surgeon called, stated "On my inspection of the above premises I found that in my opinion they were unsuitable for use under the Act".

However, after considerable discussion by the Health Committee, and promises by the owner of the premises, a licence was eventually given for part of the premises which had been renovated in the meantime. It was understood that the licence might be extended to cover the remainder of the premises when and if they were satisfactorily reconstructed.

Conclusion

Finally I wish to thank all members of the staff and the workmen for their loyal co-operation throughout the year. Special mention must be made of the valuable work carried out by Mr. J. Millward, my deputy, and Mr. W. Collins, foreman of the cleansing section. Without their assistance and ability to work without detailed instructions and very often on their own initiative, the work of the department could not have gone on.

The Health and Housing Committees have always supported the department as far as they could and my thanks to them are sincere, especially to their respective Chairmen, Councillor F.S. Dews and Councillor T.P. Hanley.

This is a joint report with that of the Medical Officer of Health and I wish to place on record the friendly and co-operative spirit that exists between all members of the staff and Dr. F.B. Mackenzie.

This is my last report after 45 years in local government, the last 27 years being in my present post at Sedgley. It is rather unfortunate not only that the report is having to be written in haste, but during a time when the department is being disorganized by resignations of staff and extra work being imposed on us through the reorganization of local government boundaries.

Under other circumstances one would like to reminisce on the changes that have taken place over the years, but as this Authority ceases to exist on the 31st March 1966, time forbids anything apart from the bald statements given here in this report.

D.J.W. ROBERTSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	9	9	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	78	82	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	2	-	-
Total	89	93	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars:	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Amount of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

